



'free radio focus'

"THE FULL STORY OF THE ABC ENGLAND COURT-CASE"



ABC England's main studio.

F.R.F. published monthly by F.O.R.P., 13, The Chase, Crawley, Sx.
Price 15p+sae (or 3 IRCs.)
Printed by G.S. Printing Service, Kent Place, Norwell, Newark,
Notts.

FREE RADIO FOCUS . . . No.12, March /April 1977.

15p+sae or 3IRCs;13,THE CHASE,CRAWLEY,SUSSEX RH10 6HW,ENGLAND.

EDITOR:Mark Dezzani...Published monthly by FORP.....

Times=GMT. Freq's=KHz.

'FOCUS NEWSREEL'

Caroline on 319! Radio Caroline terminated transmissions on 1187kHz, 259m. on Wednesday 3/3/77 and returned to the airwaves exactly one week later, on 9/3 on 953kHz, 314.5m., announced as 319. This channel is also occupied by a 100KW Czechoslovakian transmitter & several Spanish regional stations. Unfortunately, Carolines signal is slightly off channel resulting in a beat signal, heard as an irritating tone at nights. Consequently, from 18.00 onwards Caroline is unlistenable. During the day though the signal is a little stronger than 259m. Had the engineer(s) taken the trouble to trim in the crystal during the week Caroline was off the tone wouldn't be audible.

Samantha, who was fined in Holland earlier this year for being involved with Caroline is back on board, and also Johnny Jason left Radio Orwell in Ipswich to rejoin Caroline.

Home Office to be Prosecuted! Some English Radio Caroline supporters including Dave Caine & Freddie Archer of Isleham (Camb's) & Brandon (Suffolk) respectively are to take the British Home Office Radio Regularity Division to court for supplying the MV Mi-Amigo, although the exact charges are not yet known. They apparently have a letter from the Home Office admitting using a launch twice in July last year for supplying copies of the MEBO Act 1967 and newspapers & magazines to the Mi-Amigo. They claimed that the magazines were acting as a weight so the copies of the act would not fly away in the wind. The HomO claim though that the supplying of the 'Act' is not illegal. Therefore the supporters cannot loose as if the HomO are found guilty they've won and if found not guilty all they have to do when supplying magazines etc.. to the Mi-Amigo is to slip in a copy of the MEBO Act! To finance this expensive action against the HomO they are to run a mobile discoteque called the 'Mi-Amigo Roadshow.' They will be holding many special dances and if you would like to book the disco' or would like details of the disco' send an sae to; 38, Station Road, Isleham, Ely, Cambs.

More Mebo news! Both the Mebo's I & II have reached Libya (on 8/2/77) and should start transmissions soon. But, we have some encouraging news, they are not out there to stay but will continue to transmit until Mebo Ltd. have installed a landbased station for President Gadafi. This is expected to take a year or two however.

First French prosecuted. Due to pressure by the British Home Office on the French government the first French people have been prosecuted under the French equivalent of the Marine etc.. Broadcasting Offences Act (MEBO Act). Four people were fined on 24/2/77 in Boulogne for tendering the MV Mi-Amigo from Boulogne & Calais.

Mi-Amigo. After only two weeks, the French service on Radio Mi-Amigo has been scrapped due to pressure by the French government against the man behind these programmes, Mr. Van Loo. Also it is reported that Flemish listeners are against these programmes. Despite reports in the last edition of FRF, Stan Haag is still on Mi-Amigo & can be heard presenting programmes from 10.00-11.00 & 17.00-18.00hrs from Monday-Friday, and also from 17.00-18.00 at weekends. Sylvain Tack, RMA's owner is now also programme controller. New RMA DJs are; Hugo Meulenhof, Hans van der Ven & live onboard, Ron van der Plas & Eric Bakeman. Rumours of the Peace Ship being used by Mi-Amigo when their contract with Caroline boss Ronan O'Rahilly runs out are totally unfounded. The 1562kHz crystal Mi-Amigo uses is still not on channel resulting in a heterodyne whistle, not as obvious as Caroline's though!

Continued opposite.

Offshore '67 is the name of a convention to be held in August this year commemorating the tenth anniversary of the passing of the Marine etc.. Broadcasting Offences Act in 1967 by the British Labour government at that time in power. It is organised by Mike Baron. Full details will be found enclosed with this magazine. Some additional info'; Guest speakers will include:- Alan West (RNI), Ian Anderson (Caroline), Andy Archer (Caroline South, RNI, Caroline Int') & Paul Harris. Also two Granada TV documentaries, 'The Radio Pirates' (1965) & 'The O'Rahilly File' (1967) will be shown in addition to those already shown.

Caroline North. Following a raid on the station last September engineer Pete Chicago (no relation to the Pete Chicago!) was fined £25. Mr. Anthony Brentnall prosecuting for the HomO requested also, the confiscation of all the station equipment & the station's former location, 34, Anchor Ave., Darwen, Lancs is to be searched as only the 15watt medium wave transmitter was taken by the HomO. Station staff though claim that the rest of the equipment including a 50w short wave transmitter is safe, & that the station will return. During the court case the HomO claimed that the station which transmitted on 199m to the Darwen, Blackburn & Accrington area was near BBC Radio Blackburn, however the BBC station broadcasts on 351m & 78 stations could fit between Caroline North & them. Another case of HomO misinformation! Caroline North received a lot of publicity in the local press. The court case took place on Thursday 20th January 1977.

Leicester news. Radio Gloria is now on the air every Saturday night 23.00-01.00 on 1322kHz, 227m. On Sunday 20/3 Sunday transmissions commenced on 259m, 1190kHz between 10.00-15.00hrs every week. The GPO are very determined to close down Gloria & they've been raided on several occasions, but everybody escaped with all the equipment. The local press have shown a great interest in RG's activities & have given them plenty of coverage. BBC Radio Leicester have also included news reports in their transmissions about RG & an interview with Alec Newman, an RG DJ was also broadcast by them recently. RG are now in the process of arranging RG night-outs, which will be held in local pub's & disco's. RG's format is basically Top 40 with some oldies & new releases. Anybody interested in helping RG who lives in the East Midlands area please contact us at our address; LTIR, Kent Place, Norwell, Newark, Notts. or ring them on Leicester 706023.

Britain Radio Int' is off the air at present for adjustments & modifications to their transmitting equipment & will return in around two months testing on around 7.7MHz. More news of these tests nearer the date, meanwhile all those who've sent reports to BRI will be receiving their QSL card soon if they haven't received it already!

New Stations. Bristol Music Radio is the name of a new station to start soon on 207m. to the Bristol area. They are testing at the moment, but proper transmissions should start around the end of April. Any reception reports to the station should be sent c/o 13, The Chase, Crawley, Sussex.

In a few weeks time a new station should be heard on 6265kHz with approx' 200watts. The callsign as yet has not been decided upon. R.Iris Int' is a new station heard for the first time on 6/3 on 6210 kHz. They verify very quickly with an attractive QSL card. Their mailing address is; PO Box 2036, Amsterdam, Holland. They claim to broadcast from Amsterdam harbour (ambiguous statement! ED.)

R.Maniac; a relatively new station which transmits once a fortnight on 6210/6229kHz with 150watts & a $\frac{1}{2}$ wave dipole. The format consists of mainly album tracks. They are on from 11.00-13.00hrs. They verify speedily with a nice QSL, address; c/o Mr. E. Ryan, Thrifts Hall Farm, Theydon Bois, Essex, England.

FOCUS NEWSREEL CONTINUED ON P.9!.

 FRF 13 out beginning of May. Deadline for contributions; 27/4/77.

"THE COURTCASE OF ABC ENGLAND."
 =====

EXCLUSIVE TO
 FRF!

Thursday 3rd February 1977 dawned cold, windy & wet, As we- Paul Duke, Chris Cortez, Tony Jackson & Dave Parrot (the four alledged members of ABC England's staff)-walked in the rain along Lynn Road, Ely in the county of Cambridgeshire, England, we could see a small group of people standing outside the Magistrates Court. We were greeted by Mike Knight, boss of London's famous M.W. Free Radio station, Radio Jackie & a reporter & a photographer from the regional newspaper, 'The Cambridge News.'

After a short while more people arrived, Dave's defence soliciter, Chris & Paul's defence counsel, ABC England's station manager Gary Day & some other friends/supporters of ABC. Then two (2) film camera-men from the regional I.T.V. company, Anglia Television arrived on the scene, so the fun began with our being photographed by them & the guy from the press. Whilst we were entertaining the media men, the Home Office (HomO) arrived in force & our hearts sank to our feet when we saw who was to conduct the prosecution. It was Mr. Anthony Brentnall, the toughest of all the prosecutors used by the HomO for landbased pirates cases. Following on from the incredible total of 15 charges, it was now obvious that the HomO were determined to 'Sling the book' at ABC England!

Once inside the courthouse Chris & Paul's defence counsel did a wonderful job on behalf of all four accused, by persuading the prosecution to drop seven of the 15 charges in exchange for our pleading 'Guilty' to a remaining eight specimen charges. This we agreed to do.

During the time spent waiting to actually go into court Michael Peter Hawkins (all four of the summonses had been raised in his name) & Paul Duke (HomO) were very friendly & talkative but Raymond Frank Cassell just glared & walked away when Chris said, "Good morning Frank." Obviously Mr. Cassell was off work sick on the day they handed out elementary good manners to the members of the Colchester HomO!!

We were sitting in the waiting room when at 11.15hrs GMT the courtroom door swung open & out walked Mr. Hawkins grinning all over his face. He said, "They have got me acting as the blooming court usher now, so I hereby call..." He read out our names. Once we were inside the court we noticed that it was very small with no public gallery & hence all our friends/supporters were not present. When we queried this we were informed, that due to an unfortunate move by Dave's defence solicitor to get the proceedings 'Over as quickly as possible' our case was being held in the small No.2 court & therefore, through no fault of ours, or thiers, all our friends/supporters as well as all the other HomO officials were stuck in the public gallery in the main No.1 court! Naturally we were none too happy with this cock-up arrangement but, we realised that it was pointless asking for permission to bring the others in, as there was just no space for them to even stand.

No.2 court was indeed very small. It was just an ordinary room & the court furniture consisted of ordinary tables & chairs. These were arranged like the top, left side & base of a square, the right side being without tables & chairs & open to the right wall & door. All the chairs were on the outside of the three long tables, except the four chairs we were sitting on which were located along the inside of the base of the square in front of the table & facing the magistrates. The seating plan starting top right & going anti-clockwise was; -Male Magistrate, male magistrate/chairman of the bench, Female magistrate (Top table); Male Clerk of the Court, Mr. Anthony Brentnall (prosecuting), Police Officer (Left side table); Media reporters, Mr. Newton (Dave's defence solicitor), Mr. Jeremy O'Connor (Chris & Paul's defence counsel), Mr. Michael Peter Hawkins, (base table.)

Continued Opposite.

The proceedings began in the usual way with the Clerk of the Court asking us to confirm our names/addresses & reading out the eight charges, asking each of us in turn, "How do you plead?" We all replied, "Guilty." As each of us was dealt with, Mr. Brentnall explained to the magistrates about the other seven charges being dropped.

Next Mr. Brentnall who had a huge file marked 'ABC England' open on the table in front of him (Note:-The file contained an ABC England QSL card, DX/F.R. News bulletins & a photocopy of an article from an issue of Free Radio Focus. Thus proving, Bad News Dep't; HomO officials are still writing to L.B.P's under false names! Good News Dep't; The HomO read Free Radio Focus!), began a lengthy statement of the prosecution case. He stated that, "A broadcast from Radio ABC England had been picked up at Portishead, near Bristol in the West of England on 6270kHz, a marine frequency used by shipping." He also stated that, "Although ABC's use of this frequency had caused problems there had been no actual danger to shipping." Mr. Brentnall added, "As a result of the Portishead logging, ABC England had been monitored on a regular basis. An attempt to raid the station on 19/9/76, had failed due to the station's use of look-outs but, a further raid on 3/10/76 had been a success." He then went on to detail the exact events of 3/10 (which subscribers to FRF will have already read about!) showing the magistrates colour photo's of the alledged ABC equipment & explaining the court's 'powers of confiscation'. Also, he said, "One of the D.J's heard broadcasting on ABC England, used the name Paul Duke. By coincidence the Post Office Technical Officer for this area of the country, is also called Paul Duke!" This comment produced laughter from the magistrates!

Mr. Jeremy O'Connor, counsel for Paul Duke & Chris Cortez began the case for the defence, when the 'Prosecution case' ended. He said, "Your worships- neither of my clients has any previous conviction for this type of offence. They both admit to having broken the law but, they are respectable gentlemen who seek only to 'democratize' radio broadcasting in this country. Mr. Duke spends a lot of his time working for a hospital radio station & Mr. Cortez writes magazine articles on radio. They are frustrated Free Radio enthusiasts nostalgic for the long-gone days of the early 1920's when English radio stations were truly free. They strongly believe that this country must have radio free of state control, -in other words, Free Radio!" Mr. O'Connor went on to say, "In case your worships are at a loss to understand what motivated my clients to actually break the law by transmitting illegally, I can do no better than to outline something that one of them said to me shortly before this case began. The staff of ABC had derived great pleasure & satisfaction from the few letters that they have managed to receive from listeners in East Germany. These few letters make them feel that their illegal operation is doubly worthwhile. (1) ABC England's broadcasts entertain the East Europeans & remind them of the freedoms that they have lost, possibly for ever! AND (2) ABC England's broadcasts serve as a timely reminder to the English people, that the great freedoms which we once had in this country are being wittled away day by day by the encroaching hand of the state!"

Mr. Newton, Dave Parrot's defence solicitor, then stood up & said just a few words on his behalf. "My client is not involved to any great extent with the station ABC England & he is only on the fringe of the F.R. scene. In fact he did not even know what F.R. was, until he got talking to a man named Philip in a pub!"

Tony Jackson then said a few words on his own behalf (he was not legally represented.) He also told the magistrates that he hoped they would feel able to grant him repossession of his Sony cassette/radio & the three portable radio telephones. He said, "As the cassette machine is combined with a radio, I use the radio for time-checks in the mornings to get me to work on time, & at the moment I am lost

'The courtcase of ABC England' cont'd.

....without it! Also the portable radio telephones are promised for sale to a radio amateur friend of mine & I have documents here to prove this fact." Next the magistrates retired to consider the verdict,

Only five minutes later the magistrates returned & the chairman stated that we would each be fined £25 per charge plus £25 costs, (i.e. £75 each, making a total penalty for the station of £300!) Tony said he would pay his £75 at once by cheque & the rest of us were allowed time to pay. The magistrates also said that we could have ALL our equipment back! - We couldn't believe our ears!! Mr. Brentnall was on his feet quick as a flash explaining to the magistrates, that they had obviously misunderstood his earlier comments on the court's 'powers of confiscation.' The magistrates revised their decision & said that we could have everything back except the transmitting equipment. We were quite happy to have got everything back but, the HomO were not so happy as they had left the cassette/radio & portable radio telephones at Colchester, Essex! They said they would send this equipment up by road to their Cambridge Depot & that we could collect it on the following Monday.

Once outside the court, Dave & his Defence Solicitor hurried off back to Cambridge & after Paul & Chris had bade farewell to their Defence Counsel, the three of us remaining spoke to the media men. Chris also spoke to Mr. Brentnall, thanking him for conducting the case in such a professional manner & for saying such nice things in court about ABC England's engineering standards/technical quality. (Note: -An interesting point to come out of this case is the complete justification of ABC's engineering technical policy of maintaining a 'broadcast band standard' on a 'marine band.' F.R. stations broadcasting off channel (eg, 6228.5, 6266kHz etc) are far more likely to cause interference & be chased by the authorities than the stations which are on channel, as marine stations have a channel spacing of less than 2kHz. Let's hope that the lineup of stations on a Sunday reads; 6200, 6205, 6210, 6215, 6220, 6225kHz, etc, etc!!)

However, when Chris spoke to Mr. Hawkins saying that 'We thought it was hilarious that we nearly had the transmitter equipment returned to us,' it at once became obvious that his genial mood for the court-case had ended - they say a leopard never changes his spots! He snapped back at Chris, "If any one of you four had taken the transmitter equipment away from here today, that would have been admitting ownership of illegally used apparatus & I would have taken out a further summons/charge right away." We all then rejoined our friends & explaining to them about what had occurred in court we headed for the nearest Ely pub selling traditional English real ale! The time by now was 12.30hrs GMT, but unknown to us the day's fun was not yet over.

We had only been in the pub for about ten minutes & were still ordering our beer, food, etc., when the bar door opened & in walked - Michael Peter Hawkins & company! By pure chance they too had chosen the pub to refresh themselves, not knowing that we were inside! During the next hour or so of drinking, eating & talking, we showed the HomO guys some black & white photo's of themselves taken previously at another East Anglian courtcase. Hawkins asked if he could keep a spare photo of East Anglian Regional HomO boss, Raymond Game (who was unable to go to Ely due to a HomO meeting commitment,) to give to him! We agreed.

Finally Hawkins & Co. said 'goodbye' & left for home. Shortly afterwards we also left. We had things to do in Cambridge & we wanted to see ourselves on the front page of the evening paper & on Anglia Television. Furthermore we had a planning meeting to attend at 21.00hrs GMT that evening, as Sunday was only three days away & ABC England was due on the air again!!

THE END. (C) ABC England & F.R.F. 10/2/77.

LOGBOOK.

Key; E=English/England. D=Dutch/Holland. G=German/West Germany. P=Pop music. A=Album tracks. S=Soul music. T=Traditional music. WL=Where logged. Fo=Format. DX=DX/FR news. L=Letters. Te=Test. F=France. Fi=Finland. EG=East Germany. O=Oldies. CP=Continental pop. Sw=Swedish.

7

Station**Date***Freq****Time, GMT**S:I:N:F:O:***Fo*****WL**

Omission from FRF11.

a) R. Concord Int'....16/1...1322....12.07.....2;5;3;5;2;...E/A....E..

This months log...

1) R. Smokey.....	30/1...	1331....	00.20.....	4;3;4;3;3;...	EDP/T..E..
2) R. Black Shadow....	30/1...	6215a...	10.00.....	4;3;3;4;3;...	ED/T...E..
3) R. Solent City.....	30/1...	6280....	10.15.....	4;3;4;3;4;...	E/P....E..
4) European Music R....	30/1...	6265....	10.50.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	E/TeP..E..
5) R. Free Midlands....	30/1...	6255a...	11.30.....	4;4;3;4;4;...	E/P....E..
6) R. Atlantis.....	30/1...	6255....	11.45.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	E/P....G..
7) R. Verona.....	30/1...	6290....	12.25.....	3;4;4;3;3;...	EDP/T..E..
8) R. Maniac.....	30/1...	6229....	12.30.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	E/Te...E..
9) Monroe R.....	4/2...	1325....	23.08.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	ED/P...G..
10) R. Johnnie Walker...	5/2...	1322....	00.40.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	EDG/P..F..
11) R. Verona.....	5/2...	6225....	12.28.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	D/P....G..
12) R. Gloria.....	5/2...	1322....	23.30.....	3;2;3;4;3;...	E/PA...E..
13) R. Black Arrow.....	5/2...	1330....	23.35.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	ED/P...G..
14) R. Concordia.....	5/2...	1325....	23.57.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	D/T....G..
15) R. Zender Marianna..	6/2...	1205....	00.35.....	4;4;3;3;3;...	D/T....E..
16) R. Valleri.....	6/2...	6202.5..	09.45.....	3;4;4;4;3;...	E/P....E..
17) R. Omega.....	6/2...	6276.6..	10.50.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	Sw/P...Fi.
18) ABC England.....	6/2...	6270....	11.10.....	3;2;3;3;2;...	E/P....G..
19) R. Verona.....	6/2...	6265....	12.05.....	4;3;3;3;3;...	ED/P...G..
20) R. Verona.....	6/2...	6225....	12.55.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	ED/P...G..
21) R. Blackbird.....	12/2...	1322....	00.15.....	4;4;3;3;3;-4;	EDG/P..E..
22) R. Concordia.....	12/2...	1322....	23.50.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	ED/TCP.E..
23) Zender Marianna....	13/2...	1205....	00.20.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	D/T....E..
24) R. Northsea Int'...	13/2...	6225....	09.30.....	3;4;4;3;3;...	E/P....E..
25) R. Valleri.....	13/2...	6202.5..	09.55.....	4;3;4;4;4;...	E/P....E..
26) R. Sylvania.....	13/2...	6205....	10.30.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	Fi/P...Fi.
27) ABC England.....	13/2...	6199....	12.08.....	3;4;4;3;3;...	E/A....E..
28) R. Maniac.....	13/2...	6210....	12.30.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	E/P....E..
29) R. Atlantis Amst'...	18/2...	1325a...	23.19.....	2;2;2;2;2;...	D/T....G..
30) R. Napoleon Int'...	18/2...	1325a...	23.41.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	D/TP...G..
31) R. Gloria.....	19/2...	1322....	23.20.....	3;5;3;5;4;...	E/PA...E..
32) R. Black Arrow.....	20/2...	1327....	00.00.....	3;2;3;3;2;...	ED/P...G..
33) Troubadour R.....	20/2...	1330....	00.01.....	4;3;4;4;3;...	D/T....G..
34) R. Johnnie Walker...	20/2...	1325....	00.50.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	E/P....G..
35) R. Casablanca.....	20/2...	6285....	10.10.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	E/P....G..
36) R. Snoopy Int'.....	20/2...	6220....	10.30.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	E/S...Fi.
37) European Music R....	20/2...	6265....	11.00.....	5;4;4;4;4;...	E/L....E..
38) R. Rock Int'.....	20/2...	6275....	11.00.....	2;3;3;2;2;...	E/P....E..
39) R. Snoopy Int'.....	20/2...	6275....	11.10.....	3;2;3;2;2;...	ESw/P..G..
40) R. Verona.....	20/2...	6280....	11.43.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	D/T....G..
41) Black Shadow R....	26/2...	1331....	00.05.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	DE/PO..E..
42) Zender Enterprise...	26/2...	1322....	00.20.....	4;4;3;3;3;...	D/T....E..
43) R. Smokey.....	27/2...	1331....	00.10.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	DE/P...E..
44) R. Hawaii.....	27/2...	1320....	00.15.....	4;3;4;3;3;...	E/P....G..
45) R. Orion.....	27/2...	1320....	00.18.....	2;2;2;2;2;...	D/T....G..
46) R. Barones.....	27/2...	1322....	00.40.....	4;2;3;3;2;...	DE/P...G..
47) R. Channel 292.....	27/2...	6220....	09.15.....	3;3;3;3;3;...	EG/P...G..
48) Freak R.....	27/2...	6225....	09.40.....	4;3;4;4;3;...	EG/P...G..
49) R. Solent City Int'	27/2...	6280....	11.00.....	3;2;2;3;2;...	E/P....E..
50) R. Maniac.....	27/2...	6210....	12.00.....	5;4;4;4;4;...	E/P....E..
51) Freak R.....	27/2...	6235....	13.00a...	3;3;3;3;2;...	EG/P...E..
52) Om' Centrale Apel'	6/3...	1205....	00.10.....	4;4;4;4;4;...	ED/TCP.E..

Continued Overpage.

ADDRESSES:a)The Kennels,Foulsham,Norfolk,Eng': 1,43,53)Huizingas-
laan 3,Ten Boer(Gr)N.E. NL : 2,14,22,41,52)PO Box 77,Raalte(Ov) NL.:
3,5,12,31,38,49,62)Kent Place,Norwell,Newark,Notts.,Eng. : 4,37)
7 Godric Rd.,Witham,Essex,Eng' : 6,47)Postfach 512,D-4440 Rheine,FRG:
7,11,19,20,40,55,63)PO Box 81,Vroomshoop,NL. : 8,28,50,64)c/o Mr.E.
Ryan,Thrifts Hall Farm,Theydon Bois,Essex,Eng'. : 9,26,36,39,60)PO
Box 50,Oude Pekela(Gr),N.E. NL. : 10,34)p/a Simon Hindriks,Meerstraat
33,Emmen,NL. :13,32)Bouwerschapsweg 48,Ten Boer(Gr),N.E. NL. : 15,23)
c/o Berkhof,Eperweg 39,Oene,Weluwe,NL. :16,25)134,Eastworth Rd.,
Chertsey,Surrey,Eng'. : 17)Magnus Johansson,STL 82 Nygaro,S-31100
Falkenberg,Sweden. : 18,27,54)42,Arran Close,Cambridge,Eng'. : 21)
PO Box 31,Emmer Compascuum(Dr),N.E. NL. : 24,58)PO Box 41,Dedems-
vaart,NL. : 29)PO Box 40243,Amsterdam,NL. : 35,57)PO Box 428,Almelo,
(Ov),NL. : 44)PO Box 25,Emmer Compascuum(Dr),N.E. NL. : 45)PO Box
47,Ulft(Gld),NL. : 48,51)c/o Bert Pol,Dembourgstraat 1,Amsterdam,NL.:
56,65)PO Box 2036,Amsterdam,NL. : 61)West Molsey,Surrey,Eng'. :
33,42,46,59) Unknown!::

12c) 27/2/77, 6250kHz, 12.35-12.50GMT. Non stop oriental orchestral music (no announcements or jingles.) At 12.50 played "Internationale" & went off air. Loud signal in central England. (ED: A harmonic??) Numbers 3 & 34 in FRF11's logbook should be "Freak Radio!"

+++++

This new column in FRF is an experiment and will either be scrapped or continued depending on your response to it,we'd also like contributions to this column,set out as below,as the following are the editor's QSL list.We also want you to inform us of any stations which have taken over 6 months to verify your report or has still not replied after 6 months;(The stations are listed alphabetically.)

Continued Opposite!

Tom Cat R.
R. Verona

C, L, I.
C, L, I.

7 days.
31 days.

Stations who do not answer:

Caroline Int', Postfach 512, D-4440 Rheine, FRG; R. Gloria Int', PO Box 1823, D-76 Offenberg, FRG; R. Atlantis, (same address as Caroline Int'.)

QSL OF THE MONTH.

RADIO CHANNEL 292.



KEY: PC=Postcard. L=Letter. S=Sticker. I=Information. C=QSL Card.

Sh=QSL Sheet. Rating; The more stars the better, maximum is 5 stars,
- =No QSL card received. (eg QSL letter or postcard.)

DON'T FORGET TO SEND YOUR COMMENTS & CONTRIBUTIONS ON THIS COLUMN!

RADIO CAROLINE CONTINUES 312 METRES, 38mm badges. 10p each + s.a.e.
or 4 for 34p+ s.a.e. Blank P.O's to; FRS, PO Box 123, READING RG3 5JU.

FOCUS NEWSREEL Continued...

LONDON LANDBASED NEWS. Radio Jackie celebrated their eighth birthday with a special broadcast on Sunday 20th March. The broadcast included a one hour history of R. Jackie introduced by Mike Knight. RJ continues every Sunday on 1331kHz from 09.00-14.00GMT to the London area. Their mailing address is simply; RADIO JACKIE, West Molsey, Surrey, England. East London R. is a local station broadcasting from somewhere in East London on 1493kHz, 201m on Sundays between 10.00 & 14.00GMT. The transmitter power is 15watts and they use a 1/2 wave dipole as an aerial. DJ's pick their own records and there is a phone number for requests, 01-342 2222. Reports have been received from as far away as Colchester & Ipswich. Their mailing address is; ELR, 83, Connington Crescent, Chingford, London E.4. Radio Tranquility was heard back on the air on Sunday 27/2 on 229m at 11.00GMT. They said it was a test and gave out a telephone number, 01-462 2222. People ringing in were greeted by a telephone answering service. A new station called Radio Andromeda was heard with an excellent signal in London on 27/2 on approx' 215m. The transmission started at approx' 10.15GMT.

Continued Overpage.....

London News(Cont'd...)....They called themselves,"North London's Only Album Station." The DJ was not very good,probably a back bedroom ego-tripper!..On the same day,(27/2) a station was heard on 1277,235m with continuous music,(soul.)RNI jingles were played but no identification was given.The quality of the signal was poor.On FM several stations have been heard recently according to Roger Knight;R.Invieta on 92.4MHz;Sun Radio on 92.8MHz & Radio Telstar on 92.3MHz.The latter was from around Bromley in Kent. Radio Jackie closed down early on 27/2 due to trouble from a farmer whose land they were on."He did his nut,& threw us & our equipment off his land," a spokesman for RJ said! East London R. now have an FM outlet.It has been raided once already by the HomO,although a cassette machine was lost,none of the transmitting gear was lost!

AIR MAGAZINE!

'AIR' No.2 is out now and includes;A feature on Irish radio, campaign & free radio news,the story of a landbased pirate & much more.This lavish publication costs 40p+large sae or 5IRC's from; FRC-Scotland,NBPS,52,St.Enoch Sq.,Glasgow,G1 4AA,Scotland.

ABC England. ABC now has a set of three glossy black & white photo's of their studios etc.. available(one of which is on the front cover of this mag'.)They measure 9cm x 9cm & are for sale for 60p post free for the set from ABC ENTERPRISES,42,Arran Close,Cambridge,England. On the 1/3 ABC had the rare distinction of being included in R.Sweden's "Calling DX'ers" programme.They don't usually mention what they call 'Hobby Pirates'.

European Music Radio,(EMR) report that they will commence regular transmissions in April on 6265kHz.Tests in February & March have been heard widely over Europe.A test on 20/2 terminated early due to a Radio Services team being in the vicinity.Transmitter power is 50w.Their mailing address is;7,Godric Rd., Witham,Essex CM8 1PQ,England.Their QSL card is illustrated here & will be sent to all those who send correct reports & enclose sufficient return postage.

EUROPEAN MUSIC RADIO
 QSL

TO GMT 19.30 TO 1.00 PM
 DATE SUNDAYS
 BAND 48MHz/6265 kHz
 ANTENNA 40 FT WIRE
 TX POWER 50 WATT



BEST WISHES TO YOU
 FROM US

EMR
 7.GODRIC ROAD
 WITHAM ESSEX
 CM8 1PQ
 ENGLAND

Ill seaman back in Holland

A 17-year-old Dutch seaman who was brought ashore seriously ill from the pop pirate ship Mi Amigo by Walton-on-the-Naze lifeboat is now safely back in Holland.

His mother arrived in England by air and collected her son from Essex County Hospital at Colchester. The youth, Bart Van Gogh, whose condition is reported as satisfactory, travelled under heavy sedation.

He had been ill for more than a week

Mi-Amigo crewman taken off by lifeboat! Bart Van Gogh,a 17 year old crewman was taken off the Mi-Amigo by lifeboat seriously ill on Monday 28/2.When the lifeboat drew alongside the Mi-Amigo,he was lowered down on a stretcher by dj's,crew & two young girls, one of which asked permission to accompany him to shore,but she was refused permission.Van Gogh had been ill for over a week,but when he collapsed twice the crew feared for his life & called out the lifeboat which made the 50mile journey out to avoid the sandbanks,it took 6 hours.The youth is now safely back in Holland & it appears that the British authorities have taken no action against him,although we don't know if the Dutch have.A cutting from the East Anglian Daily Times describing the incident is shown here.

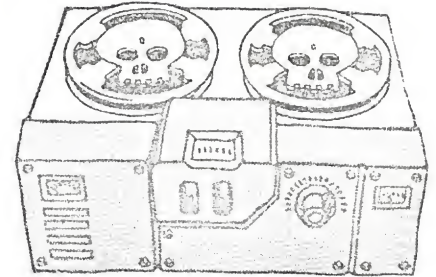
 FREE RADIO FOCUS;No.13 out beginning of May.Deadline for Contributions(eg;Logbook,QSL,cuttings,news,articles etc..)Wed 27/4/77.....

CITIZENS' BAND RADIO (11 mts) 27 MHz.

WE HOPE TO HAVE A CB PAGE ON C.B. RADIO, ANY HELP IN THE WAY OF NEWS PAPER CUTTINGS, PHOTO'S, QSL CARDS, REQUEST'S FOR PEN or TAPESPONDING CONTACTS, ECT WOULD BE MOST WELCOME. SOME INFORMATION REGARDING BRITISH CB OPERATORS AND THERE CONTACTS ALREADY MADE THIS YEAR WILL BE IN FRF 13, PLUS ADDRESSE ON CAMPAINES TO START CB IN THE UK.

P.L. TAPES

38, Outerwyke Road, Felpham,
Nr. Bognor Regis, Sussex, England.



Welcome to the sound memorials of free radio.
Listed below are some of the most popular recordings selected from the 1977 P.L. Tapes catalogue. To enable you to benefit from these recordings the music has been edited out. This now means that you hear more of the programming, deejays and most important, a much wider choice of radio stations.

Professional recording equipment is used to maintain a high sound reproduction from master tapes. Only quality branded tapes are used, which are fully guaranteed. When ordering tapes please state clearly whether you require reel or cassette. Recordings have a duration of 1 hour unless stated otherwise. UK postage & packing paid. Overseas customers please add the required amount for postage when ordering tapes. FREE with every 3 or more tapes purchased "The Adventures of Peter the Sailor" PLUS pen friend list. Send your orders to: P.L. Tapes, 38 Outerwyke Road, Felpham, Nr Bognor Regis, Sussex.

TAPE NO's

F1-RONAN O'RAHILLY SPEAKS A sound autobiography and exclusive interview with the Caroline boss. Very good quality/Price £1.60p.

F2-WORLD IN ACTION REPORTS A very informative recording on the building of Caroline and Atlanta plus ITN reports on the pirates of "66". Very good quality/Price £1.60p.

F3-RNI ELECTION CAMPAIGN. Many extracts and promotions against the Labour party. RNI changes to Caroline. Good quality/Price £1.40p.

F4-CAROLINE SOUTH Show extracts & famous Frinton flashing. 55 minutes. Very good quality/Price £1.50p.

F5-3 HOUR FREE RADIO EXTRAVAGANZA. Professionally edited tape containing recordings from many stations, highlights, shipwreck, bombing, mutiny, landbased pirates, Unruly waves documentary plus 200 custom made jingles. Very good quality/Price £4.50p-3 hours.

F6-RADIO 270 CLOSEDOWN. Rusty Allen compares the programme with farewell messages from broadcasting staff and crew aboard the Ocean VII. Good quality/Price £1.50p. 55 minutes.

F7-RADIO LONDON SHOW EXTRACTS. Featuring all the BigL deejays and many promotions & jingles. Very good quality/Price £1.70p.

F8-MY FRIEND CAROLINE. Best selling tape of 1976. Professionally edited containing many extracts from Caroline. Very good quality/Price £2. 90 minutes.

F9-OFFSHORE HOAX. Radio Sovereign, recorded Christmas Day 1970. Was this an offshore station or landbased pirate? Listen & find out. Very good quality/Price £1.70p.

F10-CAROLINE VOYAGE. Exciting recording of the MV Caroline sailing to the Isle of Mann. Recorded on the Sussex coast. Very good quality/Price £1.80p.

F11-CAROLINE INTERNATIONAL. Featuring all time favourite deejays & promotions for Caroline International. VERY good quality/Price £1.60p.

F12-RNI PROGRAMMES. Recorded in Scheveningen 1974. Don Allen's chart toppers, Brian McKenzie's Rock & Roll Special & Don Allen's Country & Western Jamboree. Very good quality/Price £1.50p.

P.L. Tape list cont'd...

TAPE NO'S

F13-CAROLINE ACTION. Distress calls, SOS fire calls, ship adrift plus the home office raid. Good quality/Price £1.50p.

F14-FREE RADIO MIXTURE. The mighty C. Radio Nova. Invicta's tribute to the late Tom Pepper plus extracts from the 1970 free radio rally. Very good quality/Price £1.50p.

F15-RNI & CAROLINE. Link up between both stations on Christmas day 1972. April Fools day 1976-BIG joke. RNI adrift after losing anchor 23.11.71. Good-Poor quality/Price £1.40p.

F16-FREE RADIO ON LAND. Documentary on London's landbased stations with extracts and interviews. Very good quality/Price £1.60p.

WHEN ORDERING TAPES PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME, ADDRESS & TAPE NUMBERS YOU REQUIRE. PRICES STATED ARE FOR BOTH CASSETTE & REEL 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ ips. CHEQUES, P/Os SHOULD BE MADE PAYABLE TO P.L. TAPES.

FOCUS FEEDBACK

..."I have a few suggestions which I would like your opinion of. They are as follows:-

That all F.R. stations should join a British F.R. organization, and abide by their rules and regulations. (Suggestions for rules & regulations).

Frequency allotment depending on E.R.P. & location.

Modulation level & Band width-Maximum mod', 90%. Maximum band width 6k/c.

Programme content, e.g. Clean language, no obscenities or G.P.O. criticism.

Frequency Stability.

No interference with legal channels or with fellow free radio operators or TV Interference.

Overall standard reaching commercial level.

This in my opinion would give free radio listeners an impression of expertise & professionalism, & also show the government that free radio operators are capable of operating and maintaining an acceptable level of entertainment.

In a nutshell we should get away from the pirate image, which gives an impression of a bad organisation & poor programme content, (if any), and severe interference. Whilst true FR operators support a cause (& sometimes an expensive cause) fighting for free rights and free choice of music on the airwaves, in this supposedly free state.

There is one other point which I would like to make as regards FR in the short wave bands, and that is of opening another band, around 7.6 to 7.9MHz. I have checked these frequencies and they seem pretty clear. At the moment I am building a 50w. transistor transmitter for this band to be used soon on Sundays. I would appreciate publicity on this band if you agree with me. The main reason why I ask your opinion of these ideas, is that I believe people like ourselves who support & run FR should work together, as this is the only way to achieve results which will help promote & keep Free Radio going. The organisation once started would be very effective giving listeners a chance to hear tx's clearly.....

Steve Joens. Britain Radio Int'.

Editor: I agree with most of the above ideas, bandwidth I think should be 5kHz. Any other stations interested in forming such an organisation please contact the ed' & readers, let's have your ideas!

RADIO BRIEF magazine; No. 8 is out now. Extensive news on Mi-Amigo, feature on LBC + latest FR & IBA/BBC news. 21p. inc' post from; 8, Skardu Rd., Cricklewood, London NW2 3ER.

PLEASE MENTION FRF WHEN REPLYING TO ANY AD'S IN THIS EDITION. THANK-YOU!

Flashback '67



August 14th 1967 marked an end to an era — the era of British Offshore Radio. When people look back at the sixties they have memories of swinging London, the mini skirt, Biba, Mary Quant, the Beatles, a Union-Jack-on-everything and.... the pirate radio ships. The pop pirates, eventually silenced by a Labour Government, brought an enormous amount of enjoyment and pleasure to millions of people for many years.

Ten years later an Offshore Radio Convention is being organised in London. Flashback '67 will be a nostalgic event for both the people that listened to and those that broadcast the programmes of the pirate stations.

To mark the tenth anniversary of the passing of the Government's Marine etc. Broadcasting (Offences) Act 1967 — which outlawed the pirates — Flashback '67 will be held over the weekend 13th/14th August 1977.

For two days ex-deejays and technicians will mix with listeners and enjoy a variety of films, exhibitions, talks, and debates

CONFERENCE

The Conference

In the conference hall there will be a wide variety of presentations and films. Final details will not be available until closer to the convention, but these are provisional plans:

FILMSHows

"The Show Must Go On"

A 30-minute cinema film about Radio Noordzee International made in 1972 featuring Brian McKenzie, Robb Len, Grahame Gill, Robin Banks with guest appearances by Jan Ackerman, Kevin Coyne and John Peel.

"The Voice of Peace"

A 30-minute film made for German television about the Peace Ship and its broadcasts to the Middle East.

"The Big L Show"

The Radio London film made in 1966 about what was once Britain's most popular radio station, starring the Big L's deejays.

"Radio Jolly Roger"

An episode of the television series 'Danger Man' starring Patrick McGeehan, filmed on board the Radio 390 fort 'Red Sands Towers'

plus several other television documentaries on British and Dutch Offshore Radio and cinema films which include Offshore Radio sequences.

Presentations: There will be a number of presentations by guest speakers aided by tapes, slides and films. Subjects to be covered include:

Life on a pirate radio station, Pirates and Politics, The problems of operating a pirate radio station, and audio/visual presentations on the history of Radio Veronica, The Voice of Peace, Radio Hauraki and Radio Caroline. Each presentation will be followed by a question and answer session.



OFFSHORE RADIO EXHIBITION

Throughout the convention there will be a special display of photographs of the pirate radio ships, and their studios, transmitters, deejays and offices; news cuttings, stickers and other promotional material. Recordings of radio programmes made exactly ten years ago will be relayed through special loudspeakers. Various "free radio" organisations will have stands and will be supplying information about themselves. There will also be an Offshore Radio market and a souvenir shop.

£100 TV-RADIO TO BE WON

One of the features of Flashback '67 will be an Offshore Radio Quiz. All participants will be sent a questionnaire on Offshore Radio to complete. Ten people will be selected having returned correct answers. These finalists will then compete in a special quiz on the Saturday afternoon. The first prize: a super portable radio/TV worth £100!

You could win a free ticket

At the end of July 1977 the organisers will be drawing six names at random from those that have already booked seats. They will all receive a FREE ticket for a FRONT ROW SEAT and a full cash refund!

DISCO



On the evening of Saturday August 13th 1977 there will be a special disco following a commemorative dinner. Ex-pirate radio deejays will be making guest appearances. Throughout the disco there will be a continuous colour slide show, with a repeat showing of the RNI film "The Show Must Go On". There will be a number of spot competition with special prizes.

The Great Debate ??

On the Sunday afternoon there will be a debate involving members of each of the various "Free Radio" organisations, and several former Offshore Radio deejays and personalities. The questions to be discussed include: "What is Free Radio?", and "Is there a future for Free Radio and Offshore Radio?"

Boat Trip Extra

As an optional extra, on Monday 15th August 1977 a specially chartered coach will take people from the hotel To Essex for a special boat trip out to the Thames Estuary, around the M.V. *Mi Amigo* and the forts once used by the pirates — weather permitting!

August 13-14 1977

Flashback will be held at the Centre Hotel, Heathrow Airport. This modern three star hotel which has a shower, bath and colour television in every bedroom, is within easy reach of London. A free hotel bus picks passengers up from the airport, near the new Underground station, every twenty minutes. The two-day convention includes dinner in the Aviation Suite on the Saturday, a grand buffet lunch on the Sunday, and tea or coffee with biscuits during breaks. There are several bars which shall be open until 1 a.m. on the Saturday evening.

HOW TO BOOK

The cost of a seat at **Flashback '67**, includes admission to the exhibition, the conference, the debates, all the film shows, the disco, a souvenir programme and a three course dinner on the Saturday and a grand buffet lunch on the Sunday. The price after August 1st will be £15, but for all bookings made before that date there will be a special price of £13.50 (incl. VAT). For people wishing to stay overnight on the evening of August 13th 1977 there will be a fully inclusive price of £24.75 (This price includes VAT, service charge and continental breakfast). Arrangements are being made for the last two day's broadcasts of Radios

London, 270 and Scotland to be piped to all hotel bedrooms over this period.

Special rates for people wishing to attend on one day only will be available at a later date. Admission to the disco only, will be £1.00. The price of the optional boat trip will be in the region of £10.

Booking of seats is essential. There will be only 400 available and these are expected to be filled very early. Cheques should be made payable to Music Radio Promotions and should be sent to:

Flashback '67
PO Box 400,
Kings Langley,
Herts.

'Give us air' says pirate Jackie

by CHARLES GLASS

RADIO JACKIE, Britain's longest established 'pirate' radio, today begins its ninth year of illegal broadcasting from a field somewhere in Surrey.

The pop music station has been 'reaching out, touching you on 227 metres medium wave' every Sunday since 1969, despite hundreds of Post Office raids, £2,000 court fines, confiscation of £2,000 worth of equipment and one prison sentence.

Radio Jackie, while optimistically claiming 25,000 listeners in south-east London and north Surrey, is one of a dozen or so pirate stations fighting for access to the airwaves. Mike Knight, one of Jackie's founders, who recently spent 28 days in prison for broadcasting without a licence, said: 'We do it because we want to see the introduction of truly local radio.'

Mr Knight and his companions, who largely finance the enterprise out of their own pockets, take elaborate precautions each Sunday to avoid detection. The day's programme is pre-recorded and a 180-ft aerial is set up the day before.

Twenty sentries are posted around the site and at nearby police stations to warn the four people who operate the tiny home-made transmitter of an impending raid. In the Post Office men show up, the broadcasters flee with their equipment, and Radio Jackie continues from a stand-by transmitter at another site.

'In 1972,' Knight said, 'we were raided every week. Now they raid us only about four times a year.'

Radio Jackie hopes to open the way for local community radio, financed by small advertisers and contributions, in the same way that the original Radio Caroline forced open the door for licensed commercial radio in the 1960s.

Jackie is not alone in the pirate field. Radio Caroline is again transmitting daily from outside British territorial waters on 319 metres. Radio Victor puts out soul music every Bank Holiday in London.

Stations like Rebel Radio and Radio Concord provide a political service. Radio Concord broadcasts documentary tapes on virtually any issue.

This cutting is from the Sunday Observer, 27/3/77 and was printed alongside a large photo showing a R.Jackie mobile transmission. This will be reproduced in FRF 13 with the "History Of Free Radio in London" which has been delayed due to lack of space in this edition.

+++++

POPULARITY POLL.

Many thanks to all those who have so far voted in our poll, unfortunately though response hasn't been all that overwhelming, so send your votes for the following three sections (3 stations per section in order of merit.)

a) Best Programmes.

b) Best QSL card.

c) Best Station.

We'd also like you to tell us what you think the worst pirate station is. So VOTE NOW!!!

(This poll is in conjunction with FRW magazine so if you've already sent your votes to FRW don't vote again!!)

+++++

Contributors to FRF12... (Not in any order!)

Mike Baron, Geoff Gregory, Graham Whale, Steve Leah, Simon Willmott, R. Maniac, Chris Cortez, Gary Day, Mike Burden, John Williams, Chris Midgely, Gary Hogg, Pete Sandell, Richard Norris, Chris Martin, DDXLK, Roger Knight, Jackie Gribbon, Peter Leach, Mark Ward, Simon Parry, Julian Duplain, Steve Joens, R. Brandt, etc, etc...! (Apologies to anybody omitted.)

+++++

Free Radio Waves, no.3 is out now with features on R. Valleri, Caroline N., East London R., + all the latest FR news. 10p+sae (or 2IRCs) to; Flagstones, West Heath Lane, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 1TA, England.

LIVING FR MAG', 20p+sae from; PO Box 416, Birmingham B32 2HS.

The 'Dansk Lytter DX Klub, (DDXLK) publish a list of SW pirates 4 times a year with details on each station. It is available for 2IRCs from; PO Box 392, DK-8100 Aarhus C, Denmark.

DON'T FORGET TO VOTE IN OUR POLL!

ALL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR FRF 13 IN BY 27/4/77.

FRF 13 OUT BEGINNING OF MAY.

PLEASE MENTION FRF WHEN REPLYING TO ANY ADS IN THIS MAGAZINE.

Radio Concord was the first British station to introduce phone-in programmes, an idea later picked up by licensed stations. Concord was raided in London 18 months ago when it broadcast a controversial discussion on Michael X. Many of the pirate stations say they are raided when they explore sensitive issues.

For that reason, Jackie has abandoned current affairs and news. 'We did a drug story once,' an engineer said. 'They cracked down on us. It's safer just to play music.'



RADIO JACKIE

227 mts.

Sundays